

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'
MILLENNIAL STAR

ESTABLISHED IN 1840



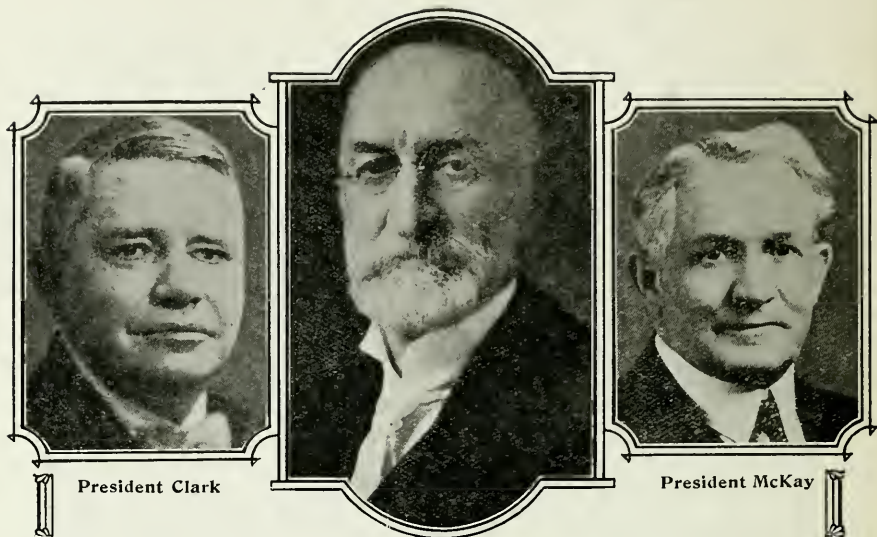
Vandyke Photo, Buckingham Palace Road, London.



His Majesty King George VI



May his reign be one of peace and prosperity for Britain.



President Clark

President Grant

President McKay

GREETINGS FROM THE FIRST PRESIDENCY

THERE is a joy in Christmas which is unsurpassed by any other season or event in the year. It is the joy that comes from losing self for the happiness of others. Because of this, though Christmas had no other virtue, each Yuletide should find the world a little better than the last, and men and women a little more eager to strive to make real the heralded proclamation: "Peace on earth, good will toward men."

With assurance in our hearts that millions of sincere people the world over are praying and striving for this consummation, we send forth our heartfelt greeting and blessing.

Evidences of progress in the Church give us true cause for rejoicing. Nineteen Thirty-six has been an eventful and prosperous year. The loyalty of the members to the ideals and teachings of the Man of Galilee has been evidenced in many ways—by greater response to the proclamation of the Gospel abroad; by increased tithes and offerings; by the erection of new Churches; by the organization of new stakes and missions; and particularly by the almost unanimous response and united effort in favour of the Church Security Plan. Surely with these and other equally meritorious accomplishments, the Lord is pleased, for, He has said: "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

All such efforts contribute to the joy and peace Christ came to establish. But let us ever remember that peace is the price of eternal vigilance and constant righteous efforts. Forces of evil and misery are still rampant in the world and must be resisted.

Once again, as in 1914, international misunderstandings threaten to divert man's inventive genius and wealth from the paths of science, art and literature, products of peace, to the means of human destruction and the holocausts of war.

The rising sun can dispel the darkness of night, but cannot banish the blackness of malice, hatred, bigotry, selfishness and greed from the hearts of humanity. Nor will happiness and peace come to earth until the light of love and human compassion enters the souls of men.

It was for this purpose that the Son of righteousness "with healing in his wings" came in the meridian of time. Through Him wickedness shall be overcome, hatred, enmity, strife, poverty, and war abolished. This will not be accomplished, however, with bombs and battle-shot, with submarines or poison gas, but with a slow but never-failing process of changing men's mental and spiritual attitude. The ways and habits of the world depend upon the thoughts and soul-convictions of men and women. If, therefore, you would change the world, you must first change people's thoughts. Only to the extent that men desire peace and brotherhood can the world be made better. Only by adhering to sound principles can peace come, either to individuals or nations.

Christ is the true light of men's lives. His coming was heralded by heavenly voices singing: "Glory to God in the highest and on earth, peace, good will toward men."

THUS was recorded the greatest and most momentous fact in the history of the world. In His taking upon Himself mortality, Christ personified Deity; in His walks and teachings among men, He exemplified the true philosophy of being; in His death and resurrection, He opened the door to life and immortality.

Rejecting the tempter's scheme of coercion and self-glorification, the Saviour established a plan that will regenerate men's souls. He knew that this regenerating force would be silent, almost imperceptible, slow in gaining momentum, and disappointing to all except only those who caught His vision, victorious only through His death, resurrection and second coming.

The mission of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is to establish peace. The living Christ is its head. Under Him over one hundred thousand men in the Church are divinely authorized to represent Him in variously assigned positions. It is the duty of these representatives to manifest brotherly love, first toward one another, then toward all mankind; to seek unity, harmony and peace in organizations within the Church, and then, by precept and example, extend these virtues throughout the world.

May each Christmas find members of the Church truer, purer, nobler than the last, that they with intellects and hearts united may hasten the day when "The Lord will bless his people with peace," that they may "lift up an ensign of peace, and make a proclamation for peace unto the ends of the earth."

The First Presidency

HEBER J. GRANT

J. REUBEN CLARK, JR.

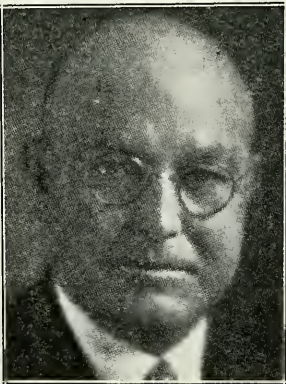
DAVID O. MCKAY

ORGANIZED RIGHTEOUSNESS

By DR. ELMER G. PETERSON

PRESIDENT OF UTAH STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

THE Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints considers the individual as the unit of first importance in the building up of righteousness in the earth. The Church, therefore, throws upon the individual the responsibility of achieving his own salvation; it grants no indulgences, it offers no favours, it does not stand between the individual and his maker. It says to the members of the Church "In all personal matters as affecting your own welfare here and your salvation hereafter—these are matters between you and God." The Church recognizes the full meaning of brotherhood in that all of us are spiritual children of God, in very deed. In such a brotherhood there must be freedom, equality of rights and rewards according to performance. This in the last analysis is true democracy and the Church, because of its belief in an actual brotherhood, becomes an exponent of a real and vital democracy. The members of the Church recognize these principles and therefore place upon themselves the responsibility for their own progress.



Dr. Peterson

"It is not enough for men merely to preach righteousness."

At the same time the Church is an organized unit which expresses certain important powers and performs certain functions which the individual cannot express or perform. The Church is a form of organized righteousness. Too little importance has been attached to this significant fact in the past. In a world economically organized on the profit motive, it develops that many iniquitous practices are encouraged by powerful organizations which seek to make money out of these practices. The opium traffic is one, as damnable a traffic as exists upon earth and yet one which employs its many thousands in exploiting and developing this deadly drug. In the same category although less deadly, of course, come the liquor and tobacco traffics. Here millions of dollars are employed and millions of men and women give their time and talent to the growing, manufacturing, advertising and merchandising of these drugs. The white slave traffic, although restricted by recent efforts, is notoriously a part of the commerce of the day, and large numbers of men and women give themselves directly and indirectly to its development. Gambling is organized on a vast scale, even governments often lending themselves to this vicious practice.

In these and other ways evil is organized in the world and the millions engaged in one or another of these activities form a vast army with disciplined soldiers and officers proceeding to accom-

plish their ends. In addition to the positively evil form which organization takes in human society, there are numerous inducements to live trivial and indolent lives as expressed in much of the social activity of our day, much of it not actively evil but in no sense stimulating or inspiring and positively injurious in that it accommodates individuals to mediocrity of effort and tends to hold to a low level the general tone of their lives. Widely throughout the world, in the larger cities particularly, the young are provided with no carefully planned programme which permits them to meet under clean and wholesome conditions. Young men and women are obliged to meet on street corners, as they walk home from factories, or in cheap commercialized dance halls or grog shops. Under such conditions they become victims often of the lower impulses in them rather than the good. The world desperately needs an organization of its people so that the best in them will be given opportunity to express itself.

A Qualified Observer

THE near-perfect organization of the Latter-day Saint Church, "which provides a complete plan for human betterment covering all ages and all members of its society" is discussed in the accompanying article by Dr. Peterson, president of Utah State Agricultural College, who recently returned to the States after an extensive tour of England, Scotland and European countries. Many *Star* readers became personally acquainted with Dr. Peterson, when he and Sister Peterson attended the M. I. A. conference at Kidderminster early last summer.

During an active career in the educational field, Dr. Peterson has been a keen observer of world trends and is eminently qualified to write on such a subject as is treated in "Organized Righteousness." When he became president of Utah State Agricultural College at the age of 34, Dr. Peterson was the youngest college president in the United States.

In the face of the existing organization of evil it is of the utmost importance that righteousness be organized, otherwise evil will be exploited and righteousness wither away. Children will be reared in an atmosphere charged with vice rather than in an atmosphere that inspires right living. The pages of the less conscientious newspapers and magazines, the lower type of cinema, the personal influence of those whose interests are bound up with one or another of the evil influences mentioned, the cheap and often vile literature offered for sale, these are degenerative forces at work constantly, and very effectively organized,

to lead humanity down.

The Church proposes, on the other hand, a programme which actively interests all who participate in it, members and non-members, in doing some form of good. Sunday School, Mutual Improvement Associations, the Relief Society, ward teaching, the activities of the various strata of the Priesthood from deacons up, the great missionary system, all represent an organized effort not only to replace evil or negative actions with good. Such activity in a positive way, strengthens the individual and cleanses and strengthens society. Many organizations, including some churches, commendably interest themselves in activities which are productive of great good. Boy Scout work is

an admirable example of such an organization. The Young Men's Christian Associations is another. And the churches all to some degree lend themselves in an organized way to the same good ends. Schools and colleges perform this function admirably for certain ages and subjects. All this is, of course, good; the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is, however, the only organization upon earth which provides a complete plan for human betterment covering all ages and all members of its society.

It is not enough these days, with evil so effectively organized, for men merely to preach righteousness. People must be organized to do good. The use of drugs, for instance, must be combated by thousands, millions in due time, giving their time and talent to fight the use of drugs, through teaching, through missionary work, through publications, and also, possibly, advertisements, with the idea in mind of making it popular not to use drugs. So with the tremendously important matter of sex. In this loose and, in so many ways and places, Godless age, thousands must organize themselves to exploit the idea that cleanliness is noble, that virtue is manly, that abstinence is a manifestation of courage, that vicious indulgence is a form of vulgarity and a sign of weakness. Girls must be taught the priceless value of purity without which they are cheap, as brass is cheap in comparison with gold. And so in the case of every evil with which mankind is beset, it must be fought as such but even more important we must fill people's minds and their hours with other thoughts and with activities in doing good. Thus, only can a people be glorified and thus only can we be instruments in ushering in the Kingdom of God upon earth.

Nothing has been said here about God; but God lives and somehow we, His children must so organize human society that the ancient faith in Him which gave us the best in our civilization shall be restored.

ON "KEEPING" CHRISTMAS

WHILE thinking of the many different manners, in the many different lands, of observing Christmas day, I came to the conclusion that there is something better than the mere observance of Christmas Day—and that is "keeping" Christmas.

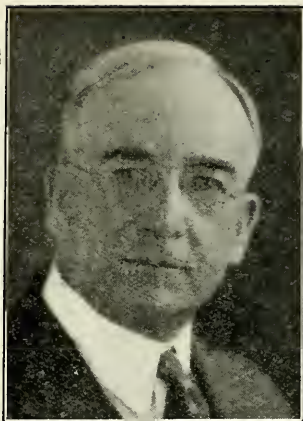
To keep the day in the true spirit of the One whose birthday it is, we must be willing—like Him—to forget what we have done for others, and let our thoughts dwell on what others have done for us.

Are we willing to forethink the needs of the little ones who are coming into the world every day in the year? To remember the spent and lonely hearts of those who have seen many Christmas days? To stop wondering how true our friends may be to us, and be a more true friend to them? To endeavour to understand and appreciate the everyday folk about us? To burn up our ugly hates and petty jealousies in the Yule fire, and to let its glow penetrate to every recess of our hearts, that others may see and be warmed? Are we willing to do this for a day—Christmas day? If so, then we are "keeping" Christmas.

And in addition, are we willing to radiate the belief that love is the greatest thing in the world—greater than evil—so great that even the grave cannot smother it—and that He who was born on Christmas day, kindled the fire of eternal Love, that we might keep it brightly burning? Then we are really "keeping" Christmas.

And if we can keep one day—Christmas day—why not everyday, and for always?

—A. HENDERSON,



President Cannon



Sister Cannon

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

FACING the third year of our happy stay in this land, we send greetings to our many personal friends and to all the readers of the *Star*.

The work has been strenuous, but time, and this is a good sign, has gone by at a gallop.

Since Mormonism came to these Isles, nearly a century ago, prejudice has never been so little as now. Even those who do not accept our doctrines welcome the growth of tolerance, understanding and appreciation.

Has it not always been a characteristic of truth that it awakens opposition when it appears? Jesus, Himself, like a prince travelling through the world incognito, aroused hatred and brought on death when He began to reveal His divine origin and destiny. But everyone will admit, even the devil will do so soon, that truth finally triumphs.

Therefore as time moves on recognition will surely come to this strange latter-day work, Mormonism, which challenges the world as the highest stimulus to active and happy living.

In the past its enemies employed drivings imprisonment and assassination. Only a quarter of a century ago, here in enlightened England, our elders were tarred and feathered.

Now when confidence in human institutions is so shaken, a deep yearning leads people to listen to this divine philosophy of life. A few are even willing to pay the price of abnegation and spiritual struggle to embrace it. The celebration of the birth of Jesus, the Redeemer and founder of the Work, approaches with especial meaning to us. The human disturbances about us fulfill the words of His prophets. The more hatred men engender the greater need we have for His love.

Strange and frightful times are before humanity. Let us use these sweet days of celebration to increase our love for one another and our faith and dependence on Jesus Christ.

JOSEPH J. CANNON
RAMONA W. CANNON

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1936

EDITORIAL

JOSEPH SMITH THE MODERN PROPHET

IT is by no means improbable that some future text book for the use of generations yet unborn, will contain a question something like this: What historical American of the nineteenth century has exerted the most powerful influence upon the destinies of his countrymen? And it is by no means impossible that the answer to that interrogatory may be thus written: Joseph Smith the Mormon Prophet. The man who established a religion in this age of free debate, is not to be disposed of by pelting his memory with unsavory epithets."

So wrote Josiah Quincy of the famous Quincy family of New England, a graduate of Harvard, 1821, and Mayor of Boston, Massachusetts, 1845-1849. This distinguished writer visited Nauvoo, the headquarters of the Mormon Church, in May 1844, forty-three days previous to the martyrdom of the Prophet. It was from the notes he made at that time that he wrote his now well-known article on the life and labours and promise of the Prophet.

Joseph Smith was born December 23, 1805, in the State of Vermont, U.S.A. His divine work and mission began at the early age of fourteen. His life, like that of the Master, was very short, but also like that of the Master, it was tremendously effective. He gave his life as a martyr to the cause he had established on the twenty-seventh of June, 1844, when he was only thirty-eight years old, but he left a work and message which are being carried rapidly and effectively "to every nation, kindred, tongue and people." On December 23 of each year the Latter-day Saints everywhere do honour to the name of Joseph Smith. They review and ponder over his life and mission and resolve anew to try to make their lives conform to his exalted and divine teachings.

All who are interested in actual facts and in well founded reasons, and who are not already familiar with the life and labours and accomplishments of this modern prophet ought certainly to be interested in learning something of his life and his work.

As missionaries of the Church of Jesus Christ we appeal to people everywhere to give serious attention to the great mission of Joseph Smith, to the exalted truths he proclaimed and to the doctrines of the Church which, under Divine Providence, he was instrumental in establishing. All seekers after truth would do well to make these studies, bearing in mind the words of the Saviour Himself: "If any man will do

Josiah
Quincy's
Opinion

His Great
Mission

his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself." (John 7:17.)

Many historians, wise men, thinkers and philosophers have been appealed to, since the Church was organized nearly a hundred and seven years ago, to find any other explanation for the outstanding accomplishments of Joseph Smith than that presented in his own claim, namely: that he was called of God, that he was authorized by the Almighty Himself to establish here on earth the Church of Jesus Christ, that he saw in vision the face of the Father and of the Son, that he heard the voices of these two mighty personages, that to him was given the Priesthood after the order of the Son of God, authorizing him to speak and act in the name of the Father and re-establish in its fullness here on earth the Gospel and Church of Jesus Christ. But no one has yet been found wise enough to bring forth any other satisfactory explanation. In no other way has anyone been able to account for him and for his accomplishments.

Professor John Henry Evans in the foreword of his excellent recently published volume entitled *Joseph Smith—An American Prophet*, has given a short but comprehensive and impressive summary of the accomplishments of this truly great man during his short but tremendously effective life.

"Here is a man who was born in the stark hills of Vermont; who was reared in the backwoods of New York; who never looked inside a college or high school; who lived in six states, no one of which would own him during his lifetime; who spent months in the vile prisons of the period; who even when he had his freedom, was hounded like a fugitive; who was covered once with a coat of tar and feathers, and left for dead; who, with his following, was driven by irate neighbours from New York to Ohio, from Ohio to Missouri, and from Missouri to Illinois; and who, at the unripe age of thirty-eight was shot to death by a mob with painted faces.

"Yet this man became the mayor of the biggest town in Illinois and the state's most prominent citizen, the commander of the largest body of trained soldiers in the nation outside of the Federal army, the founder of cities and of a university, and aspired to become President of the United States.

"He wrote a book which has baffled the literary critics for a hundred years, and which today is more widely read than any other volume save the Bible. On the threshold of an organizing age he established the most nearly perfect social mechanism in the modern world, and developed a religious philosophy that challenges anything of the kind in history, for completeness and cohesion. And he set up the machinery for an economic system that would take the brood of fears out of the heart of man—the fear of want through sickness, old age, unemployment, and poverty.

"In thirty nations are men and women who look upon him as a greater leader than Moses and a greater prophet than Isaiah: his disciples now number close to a million; and already a granite shaft pierces the sky over the place where he was born, and another is in course of erection over the place where he received the inspiration for his Book."—RICHARD R. LYMAN.

Challenge
to
Historians

Once Tarred
and
Feathered

Some of His
Accomplishments

THE PROPHET—MY HERO

By Elder Ormond S. Coulam

LIKE hundreds of thousands of others, I love the Prophet Joseph Smith. He inspires me. He was a boy who dared to believe. He believed the words of God:

The Prophet's Forefathers

"It has been borne in upon my soul that one of my descendants will promulgate a work to revolutionize the world of religious faiths."

This was a statement made on one occasion by Asael Smith, grandfather of the Prophet Joseph Smith. He made it years before the boy prophet had been visited by the Father and the Son and informed of the work which he would perform in bringing forth once again the true Gospel of Jesus Christ. The grandfather lived to see the day when one of his descendants did promulgate such a work, which did truly revolutionize the religious world. He died in 1830, a few months after the Book of Mormon had been published.

It is interesting to note that the Prophet's forbears were natives of Britain. His paternal great-great-great-grandfather, Robert Smith, emigrated to America in 1638. He lived in Boston, Lincolnshire and London. On his maternal side, Joseph Smith descended from John Mack, who was born in Inverness, Scotland in 1653 and emigrated to America 16 years later,

If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. (James 1: 5-6.)

This wonderful promise, which the boy Joseph read in the Bible one day, inspired him to kneel in fervent prayer, for he believed with all his heart and soul; and if any one needed wisdom he felt that it was he. Through that belief he asked and through it he received. The great result of this prayer was his regiving to the world the true Gospel of Jesus Christ.

His was a personality that grew from a rare and delicate birth. It required and obtained the constant and loving attention of his devoted mother and father and the kind providence of an all wise, all giving Father in Heaven. In manhood, he walked as one inspired, as one possessing the elements of greatness. He moved with monumental simplicity, resembling in greatness those "Fishers of Men" whom the world had begun to forget.

Joseph Smith brought back to a forgetting people the magnetic, awe inspiring truth that Jesus is the Christ and gave to them a new witness of His divinity in the pages of the Book of Mormon. He declared with the convictions of his soul. But with the ignorance of bygone ages still lingering on, and therefore but few followed

many failed to understand him.

Joseph was born on December 23, 1805, the son of Joseph Smith Sen. and Lucy Mack Smith. There was nothing extraordinary about him. Men of greatness seldom display their genius as

children. He was born in a youthful, struggling country which was imbued with the spirit of freedom, equality, individuality, and the enthusiasm which accompanies the conquering of new frontiers. As a youth he absorbed truth from the earth and from nature about him. He founded the character which carried to manhood and remained with him as a mighty prophet of this age.

Young Joseph knew what it was to work, to sweat, and to play.

Often he was found doing physical work, felling trees, farming, or mining, and yet a question asked him was answered from a mind turned heavenward with the conviction of proved fact and in the language of a keen intellect. Manhood found him with an instinctive completeness which makes us know that he was truly in touch with the Divine.

Joseph Smith studied the Bible and the prophets. He felt that he knew them, and indeed he did know the authentic word of God, contrasted with the many voices of his day. Against the then existing hypocritical religious dogmas, and the thousands of rigid and trifling interpretations of the scriptures, he rebelled. From this rebellion of a youth came the greatest opening of the heavens that man has ever known, for again was revealed the destiny of man through his salvation.



Joseph Smith

He stands unique among
all men in history.

The dispensation of truth foreseen by the Apostle Paul was poured out upon Joseph.

His gift to the world was accompanied by suffering, and no man has ever learned infinite love except through infinite suffering. He taught that the outward act was less significant than the inward attitude. He knew that an inward despair caused by an uncertainty of the existence of God was far more terrible than any which could come even from an immoral act. Though an angry mob cried, as with one voice, "Imposter," he knew that God had revealed truth unto him, and he forgave them.

Slowly but judiciously he moved, giving of that substance and precious truth which he had received. Slowly men began to believe and as surely as he, they too were touched by the divine spark which will also enlighten all who but seek for it. Then came forth Joseph's talents which marked him as a leader, as an organizer. He again set in motion an organization which had once uplifted men. That organization had been lost through apostacy, but God restored it to the earth again through him. As a great gust of wind he felt responsibility come upon him. Then was when his preparation enabled him to stand steadfastly as a leader, as an inspirer of men. He was called upon to teach his people and to this day is felt that guidance which he gave.

The great leader, Brigham Young felt the influence of Joseph Smith. He was schooled in his thoughts and example. He even took in his pocket across the plains plans struck by the Prophet's own hand for the laying out of a city in the tops of the mountains.

To me the Prophet Joseph Smith represents all that is good and fine in any man. He stands as a unique character among all men in history. His task was pronouncedly different from theirs, and his acceptance of that task makes us want to really understand and know him. His personality, schooled and mellowed by the task, comes down to us as a benediction to the men whom God has raised up for His purposes. Joseph Smith stands today and forever as a man of divine simplicity, of profound character, and of human understanding, a mighty prophet of God.

IF WE COULD SEE BEYOND THE SURFACE

By JOSEPHINE GARDNER MOENCH

"Irresponsible youth," I remarked of a boy
 As he squandered his earnings away ;
 But he rescued a child at the risk of his life
 In a burning apartment that day.

"A heartless coquette," I said of a girl
 Flirting on without semblance or ruth.
 As a wife she became, in the years that sped by,
 The soul of devotion and truth.

"Hard hearted policeman," I said of a man
 As his cold harsh commands reached my ears ;
 Then I saw the soul of benevolence true
 Kindly drying a little child's tears.

"Eccentric reformer," I thought of the dean
 As I floundered to follow her thought ;
 Then in homage I bowed as I listened with awe
 To the wisdom profound which she taught.

If we could see beyond the surface,
 Or look for the best always,
 Faults to blame would be quite hidden
 Behind the good to praise.

THE BUILDING FUND CONTEST

THE latest figures from the Mission Secretary's office disclose that Dublin Branch in Irish District now leads the Mission Building Fund Contest, followed closely by Southwest London Branch. Hyde Branch in Manchester District has dropped to third place while North London Branch is not far behind. Others in the contest and their order of standing at the present time are : Sheffield (Sheffield), Derby (Nottingham), Lowestoft (Norwich), Glasgow (Scottish), Hull (Hull), and Nuneaton (Birmingham).

Prizes totaling £17-10-0 will be given by Dr. Ray M. Russell, Mission Y. M. M. I. A. superintendent to the three branches leading the contest when it closes on January 15, 1937.

OF CURRENT INTEREST

King George VI, who succeeded to the Throne Friday, December 11 upon the voluntary abdication of his brother, the former King Edward VIII is the sixty-first person to reign over England, seventeenth to occupy the throne of Britain and the tenth sovereign of the House of Windsor dynasty. The House of Windsor, then known as the House of Hanover, came to the throne in 1714 upon the death of Queen Anne, who died without any surviving heirs. First King of that house was George I, son of Sophia, the Protestant descendant of James I who had married the Elector of Hanover. Four King Georges ruled Britain from 1714 to 1830. They were followed in succession by William IV, Queen Victoria, Edward VII, the late George V, the former Edward VIII, now Duke of Windsor. The Coronation date will remain unaltered and the new King will be crowned in Westminster Abbey on May 12. It is reported that King George VI will tour the Empire following his coronation.

Toy-makers have found inspiration in the news for their novelties this Christmas. The shops are selling models of the R.M.S. *Queen Mary*, models of the notorious world-roving Grimsby trawler, *Girl Pat* and other things which have made headlines. "Scale and streamline" are the demands of the children. "The trend is for exact replicas of latest scientific developments—streamline trains, dirigibles, planes, and submarines. If our designers make the slightest error in scale, the children are the first ones to raise an objection," a toy department representative stated.

Bank of England figures issued recently show that during last week more than £6,000,000 in extra notes were issued, bringing the total in circulation to £451,587,113—more than £46,000,000 above last year's corresponding figure. Increasing prosperity means more employment—more money for Christmas.

Christmas pantomimes, to the average man and his family, are just so many collections of fairies,

elves and ogres who disport in the limelight of seasonal tradition. To back-stage England, they are an important industry. This Christmas season will mean 25,000 more jobs for costumiers, musicians, actors, stage designers, carpenters, directors and stage hands.

Five-day mail service to South Africa will begin April 1, 1937, the Air Ministry has announced. It is expected to mark the beginning of flying-boat mails to all parts of the Empire. After April 1, all first-class mail for South Africa will be loaded into an Imperial Airways flying boat at Southampton. Five days later it should reach Capetown. At present, fast mail steamers require a fortnight for the journey.

Sir Malcolm Campbell, intrepid British auto racer who set the present world's land speed record for the measured mile (301.337 miles per hour) on the Bonneville Salt Flats near Salt Lake City last year may make an attempt to break the existing water speed record next year on Great Salt Lake, according to press reports. Sir Malcolm is considering the possibility of converting the motors from his famous *Bluebird*, in which he set the land record last year, into a racing boat and making an attempt on the record of 124.86 miles per hour now held by Gar Wood. Recent tests on Great Salt Lake indicate that boats can attain higher speeds on its buoyant surface than are possible of attainment on fresh water lakes. Leader in the movement to make the lake the centre of world's motorboat racing is Ab Jenkins, Mormon sportsman who holds 146 land speed records which he set with his *Mormon Meteor* racing car last summer in competition with Captain G. E. T. Eyston and John Cobb, well-known British speedsters.



Ab Jenkins
Leads move.

NEWS OF THE CHURCH IN THE WORLD

After attending Oahu Stake Conference at Honolulu, Hawaii and making a tour of the Hawaiian Mission



Elder Smith
Visits Hawaii.

George Albert Smith of the Council of the Twelve Apostles returned to Salt Lake City Saturday, December 5. During his stay in the Islands, Elder Smith visited the Governor of the Territory who complimented the Church on its mem-

bers and their conduct. One hundred Samoan members have constructed their own native village where they are living at the present time and are doing their Temple work in the Hawaiian Temple, Elder Smith reported.

Named to a special committee appointed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt to study farming conditions in the United States is Elder Lowry Nelson, director of the Utah State experiment station. Elder Nelson is one of a group of farm leaders appointed to the committee, whose chairman is Mr. Henry H. Wallace, secretary of agriculture. Only recently Elder Nelson resigned as chairman of the planning board

of the National Resettlement Administration. He was formerly professor of rural economics at Brigham Young University.

First Mormon Chapel to be built in the State of Oklahoma was recently completed and dedicated this month at Stillwater, Oklahoma in the Central States Mission. Donor of the property on which the chapel is built is Elder Thomas N. Berry, father of Elder William A. Berry, who recently laboured as travelling missionary in Great Britain. Elder William A. Berry is Sunday School superintendent of the Stillwater Branch.

Observing the fiftieth anniversary of Cardston, Alberta, Canada, residents of that city are planning a three-day celebration next year in connection with Dominion Day on July 1, according to Elder Mark S. Coombs, chairman of the committee in charge of planning the event. It was in the early summer of 1887 that President John Taylor sent Elder Charles Ora Card northward with a small group of Latter-day Saints to settle in the Canadian Rockies. Today Cardston has a population of 4,000, and is the site of the only Latter-day Saint temple on British soil. The temple was completed in 1923 at a cost of £200,000.

SCHEDULE FOR WINTER CONFERENCES ANNOUNCED

THE complete schedule for the remainder of the winter series of district conferences has been announced by President Joseph J. Cannon. The dates are as follows (parenthesis indicate city in which conference will be held):

Welsh (Merthyr-Tydfil) Jan. 3	Sheffield (Sheffield).....Jan. 24
Manchester (Rochdale)...Jan. 3	Norwich (Norwich).....Jan. 24
Liverpool (Burnley).....Jan. 10	Newcastle (West Hartlepool)
Bristol (Bristol).....Jan. 10Jan. 24
Leeds (Bradford)Jan. 17	Nottingham (Nottingham).....
Hull (Hull)Jan. 17Jan. 31
Scottish (Glasgow)Jan. 17	London (North London) Feb. 7

Exact time and locations of the chapels and halls where the conferences will be held will appear in subsequent issues of the *Star*. The conferences are open to non-members as well as members.

FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Releases—Elder Leland W. Thomas, Supervising Elder of Hull District, was honourably released Saturday, December 19, to return to his home in Magna, Utah. He also laboured in Manchester District.

Elder Franklin W. Gnnell, Supervising Elder of Nottingham District, who also laboured in Manchester District, was honourably released Monday, December 21, to return to his Wellsville, Utah home.

Appointments—Elder Clarence B. Cannon was transferred from Manchester District on December 19 and appointed Supervising Elder of Hull District.

Sisters Florence Malmberg, May Gardner, Elvera Campbell, lady missionaries, and Sister Marjorie M. McCormick have recently been appointed members of the Mission Relief Society Board. Other members include President Ramona W. Cannon and her two counsellors, Sisters Inez Cameron Russell and Helen E. M. Poole and Sisters Maud Hawks, Gertrude Horlacher and Laura Dimler.

Doings in the Districts: Hull—Supervising Elder Leland W. Thomas was honoured at a farewell social Monday, December 14, prior to his departure for Magna, Utah. Sister Amelia Ransom acted as mistress of ceremonies at the affair.

Varied Talents

SPORTS, hobbies, and many other activities are to be found in abundance among members of the Latter-day Saint Church. Proper use of leisure time has always been an important feature of the Church auxiliary programmes. One only needs to look about the mission field to see the broad scope of interest which permeate the lives of many of its members.

For example there is Brother Alexander Murphy of the Scottish District, who has for 26 years helped direct 10,000 Glasgow youths. He is a lieutenant in the Boy's Brigade and for 10 years has represented the B. B. Whitinch district at the annual general review. For several years he has conducted the Glasgow B. B. bag-pipe band of 500 boys. Brother Murphy is an experienced piper himself.

Another is Brother George Houston of Edinburgh Branch, a member of the 79th Territorial Company of the Royal Scots who is an expert rifle marksman. For the past two years he has represented his company at Bisley. Recently he gained the premier award in open competition at Edinburgh, being presented with the Carved Plaque (size 2x3 feet) award. It will remain in his possession for one year. He also was given a gold medal to keep permanently. Brother Houston has always obeyed the Word of Wisdom, and attributes much of his success to its observance.

District Y. M. M. I. A. Supervisor. Brother Philip Craig will succeed Brother Fisher as second counsellor, and Brother Albert Collins was appointed Branch Clerk.

Fifty people attended the Sparkbrook Branch M. I. A. social Saturday, December 12.

Manchester—President Benjamin

Birmingham—The morning session of Sparkbrook Branch conference was conducted Sunday, December 13, by Brother W. J. Dyson. Branch President Frederick Webb presided at the evening service and Brothers George E. Hunter and William St. John Yates, were speakers. Brother Arthur John Fisher was released as second counsellor in the branch presidency to become Dis-

R. Birchall of Irish District and President William Gregson of Manchester District were present at Hyde Branch services held Sunday, November 29. Other speakers at the services were Elder Joseph S. Wood and Brother John T. Brown of Rochdale Branch. Musical numbers were furnished by the Gleaner Girls and Brother Thomas Henry Boothroyd, who sang a vocal solo. Branch President Albert Woodruff conducted.

Liverpool—Nelson Branch Y. M. M. I. A. held a social evening Saturday, November 28 in the Branch hall. The men's prize was won by Brother John Starkie and the ladies prize by Sister Ivy Pickles. District President Fred Bradbury won the table tennis tournament. Brother Robert Pickles, M Men president, Frank Hardane, second counsellor, and Branch President James R. Pickles

were in charge of the event. Members of the Relief Society held a dance in the Branch Hall Saturday, November 21 under the direction of Sister Bertha Pickles, president. Mr. Frank Hardane acted as master of ceremonies.

Newcastle—South Shields Branch conference was held Sunday, November 29 under the direction of Branch President Charles M. Ellwood. Speakers at the afternoon service were President Ellwood, Sisters Gwendaline Ellwood, Lily Foster, and Myrtle Foster, and Brothers William Lorrens, and James Woodthrope. District President Frederick William Oates, First Counsellor Arthur Finlay, Supervising Elder Clair M. Aldrich, Elder John E. Cameron, and Brother Alexander Morris from Hexham Branch were speakers at the evening service.

DEATHS

JONES—Sister May Jones, a faithful member of Rochdale Branch, died Saturday, November 21, at her home, 12 Shepherds Terrace, Rochdale, Lancashire. The funeral service was held Thursday, November 26, in Rochdale Cemetery Chapel under the direction of Branch President George E. Dale. Supervising Elder Vernon A. Cooley, Elder Joseph S. Wood, and Brother Dale were speakers. Elder Blaine D. Fisher dedicated the grave in Rochdale Cemetery.

MILES—Funeral services for Mr. Benjamin Miles, 54, were held in Linthorpe Cemetery Chapel under the direction of Supervising Elder Clair M. Aldrich, Thursday, December 10. Speakers were Elders Aldrich and A. Leslie Derbyshire who afterwards dedicated the grave. Mr. Miles is survived by his wife, Sister Ada D. Miles and his sons and daughter, Joseph, Arthur and May, all of whom are members of South Shields Branch.

CONTENTS

Greetings from the First Presidency	818	the Surface	828
Organized Righteousness	820	The Building Fund Contest	828
On "Keeping" Christmas	822	Of Current Interest	829
Christmas Greetings	823	News of the Church in the World	830
Editorial: Joseph Smith the Modern Prophet	824	Schedule for Winter Conferences Announced	830
The Prophet—My Hero	826	From the Mission Field	831
Poetry: If We Could See Beyond			

PUBLISHER: JOSEPH J. CANNON, 5 GORDON SQUARE, LONDON, W. C. 1

EDITOR: RICHARD R. LYMAN, 5 GORDON SQUARE, LONDON W.C. 1

ASSOCIATE EDITOR: PARRY D. SORENSEN, 5 GORDON SQUARE, LONDON, W.C. 1

The Millennium Star is published weekly by the British Mission of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Subscription price: 1s. 8d. for three months; 3s. 4d. for six months, and 6s. 6d. per year.